Eucharist in Fruit Wreath by Jan Davidsz de Heem

August 22 2021

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B

TRANSFIGURATION

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem

Following the regular "Fired Up Jesus Friday" **8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, August 20**, I will travel to Sioux Falls to attend the annual meeting of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem for EOHSJ members living in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Colorado. During the 3-day event, I will be invested as an ecclesiastical Knight of the Order. Because of this, Fr. Erickson, who is already a member of the Order, asked me to write about it. Much of what follows below is taken from the Third Edition of "*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem United States Northern Lieutenancy Orientation Handbook*" by Sir Craig A. Anderson published in June of 2019.

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem is an association of the Catholic men and women established under Church law entrusted with a special mission from the Holy Father to aid the Church in the Holy Land and to strengthen the practice of the Christian life among its members. Today the Order has over 35,000 members in 40 countries and is one of the oldest organizations in the Church.

The Order was set in motion by Duke Godfrey of Bouillon, the commander of the united crusader army that took Jerusalem from the Muslim Seljuk Turks in 1099 A.D. The Seljuk Turks had taken Jerusalem 29 years earlier and had been severely oppressing Christian pilgrims. Pope Urban II responded to this persecution in 1095 by calling on European Christian knights to travel to Jerusalem and liberate the Holy Places, particularly the site of our LORD's Resurrection, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Once the First Crusade had accomplished its objective of conquering Jerusalem on 7 July 1099, Godfrey declined the honor of being crowned King of Jerusalem; however, he was elected Protector of the Holy Sepulchre. Godfrey would live only one more year; however, during that time it seems that he planted the seeds of the EOHSJ by assigning certain priests to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to minister to pilgrims and organizing crusader knights to protect the same Church.

continued on page 3

Why do we exist?

Transfiguration exists to lead all those in the East Metro to Christ, the Source and Summit of our daily and eternal lives.

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

Daily Masses

Monday-Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Be sure to check the weekly calendar for holiday changes.

Church Office Info

6133 15th Street North
Oakdale, MN 55128

Monday-Thursday:
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Phone: 651-738-2646
After-hours Emergency:
651-501-2250
mpraska@transfigurationmn.org
bulletin@transfigurationmn.org

School Office Info

Office: 651-501-2220
Attendance Line: 651-501-2255
tiger@transfigurationmn.org

STAFF INFORMATION

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AFTER HOURS PASTORAL EMERGENCY NUMBER: 651-501-2250

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safe-environment.archspm.org 651-291-4475

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms

If you have a child needing to be baptized or if you are expecting a child soon, please call the parish office at 651-738-2646 to make arrangements for an individual Baptism class.

Praise God for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ given in Baptism to **Leon Levi Martinez-Rother**, son of Ismael and Bethany Martinez-Rother, who was baptized August 15.

Weddings

If you would like to celebrate your wedding at Transfiguration, please contact the parish office at least nine months in advance.

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Interested in becoming Catholic? We invite anyone who has questions about the Faith, or who may be interested in becoming Catholic, to contact our parish office at 651-738-2646.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekend Collection Totals:	Amount Collected	Budget
August 2021	$ 69,207	$ 69,000
Fiscal Year Total as of August 15, 2021	158,444	$ 161,000
Surplus/(Deficit)		(2,556)
Percent above (below) budget		-1.59%

Big-Ticket Capital Improvement Fund	
Big Ticket Balance as of July 31, 2021	$ 60,393
Amount Collected August, 2021	$ 4,191
	-
Balance in Big-Ticket Savings Account	$ 64,584

Long-Term Debt for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022	
Interest Paid on Long-Term Debt since July 1, 2021	27,174
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of July 31, 2020	$ 3,949,257
Principal payments through August 2021	$ 15,335
Balance on Long-Term Debt as of July 25, 2021	$ 3,933,922

"Lord, how good it is for us to be here!"
MATTHEW 17:4

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 22
– 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30-7:55 a.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation
8:30 a.m. – Holy Mass
10:30 a.m. – Holy Mass (Incense)
6:00 p.m. – Holy Mass (High altar)

Monday, August 23
8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass
7:00-8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

Tuesday, August 24
8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass
Noon-12:30 p.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation
Noon-1:00 p.m. – Private Prayer/Adoration of The Most Blessed Sacrament
5:00 p.m. – Holy Mass

Wednesday, August 25
8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass
8:00-10:00 p.m. – Men's Basketball

Thursday, August 26
8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass
Noon-12:30 p.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation
Noon-1:00 p.m. – Private Prayer/Adoration of The Most Blessed Sacrament
7:00-8:00 p.m. – AA Meeting

Friday, August 27
8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass

Saturday, August 28
6:30-8:00 a.m. – Young Adult Men's Group
6:30-8:00 a.m. – Adult Men's Group
8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass
3:15-3:50 p.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation
4:00 p.m. – Holy Vigil Mass (High Altar)

Sunday, August 29
– 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30-7:55 a.m. – Sacrament of Reconciliation
8:30 a.m. – Holy Mass
10:30 a.m. – Holy Mass (Incense)
6:00 p.m. – Holy Mass

"You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."
John 6:68-69

PASTOR'S COLUMN (continued from page 1)

Several centuries have passed since the Order's birth and changing circumstances have caused the Order to adapt. In the 1977 Constitution of the Order, the mission of the Order is defined as follows: to strengthen its members in the practice of Christian life in absolute fidelity to the Pope and according to the teaching of the Church, observing as its foundation the principles of charity which recognize that the Order is a fundamental means for assistance to the Holy Land; to sustain and aid the charitable, cultural, and social works and institutions of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land; to support the preservation and propagation of the Faith in those lands and promote interest in this work not only among Catholics but also among all other Christians; and to uphold the rights of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land.

The duties and responsibilities of members of the Order today include: to practice the virtue of charity in supporting and aiding their Parish, Diocese, the Church and the Catholic religious, charitable, cultural and social institutions in the Holy Land; to promote the preservation and the propagation of the Faith in the Holy Land through prayer and in making a personal pilgrimage to the Holy Land; to intensify their practice of the Christian faith in absolute loyalty to the Roman Pontiff including striving to attend daily Mass; to bring together Christians of every nation in the love and service to the Holy Land; to generously support the Order and participate in its activities including attending the annual meeting; and to keep in mind Catholic ethical principles in carrying out their own professional and social duties. In addition to those duties, ecclesiastical Knights (bishops, priests, and deacons) are asked to assist all members by providing opportunities for prayer, spiritual opportunities, and catechesis for ongoing formation and spiritual growth. Some clerical members also take on special roles such as serving as local chaplains. All are expected to assist with the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during meetings of the members, offer and provide opportunities for ongoing religious formation, participate in the events of the Order, invite members to participate in the institutions where they are active, and encourage new members to join the Order.

Not only is it an honor for me to become a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, but I also believe it is an authentic expression of my spirituality. Nearly five years ago I had the privilege of making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and in a certain sense, that pilgrimage has "ruined" dreams of international travel for me. I was so taken with the Holy Land that I have little desire to travel to any other foreign destination. Recent circumstances have made travel to the Holy Land difficult; however, I look forward to returning. I hope and pray each of you will have a chance to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land; you will not regret it.

All the Best in Jesus Christ our LORD,

Fr. Brian Lynch

ACCESSIBLE, AVAILABLE, MULTIPLE POINTS OF ENTRY

We are committed to providing many opportunities for as many people as possible to encounter the Lord through programs and offerings that are accessible, friendly, and convenient.

Grief Share

Have you heard about the GriefShare Support Group? Sessions will be **Tuesday evenings 6:00-7:30 p.m.** in the Normoyle Room beginning **September 7, 2021.**

This 13-week program includes video presentations and group discussions to aide in the grieving process of losing a loved one. Participants need not be parishioners. For more information, please contact Martha Praska: mpraska@transfigurationmn.org

> "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"
> Matthew 28:19

Saturday Morning Men's Groups

Looking for a group of men to share your faith with and hold you accountable to become the man God created you to be? Looking for some support in your vocation as a father and husband? Transfiguration has two men's groups that meet every other Saturday morning from **6:30-8:00 a.m.** for prayer, study, and mutual support. The groups are filled with great men who will be a benefit not only to you, but to your family. You might even find friends to help you with weekend projects at your house. Our next session is **August 28.**

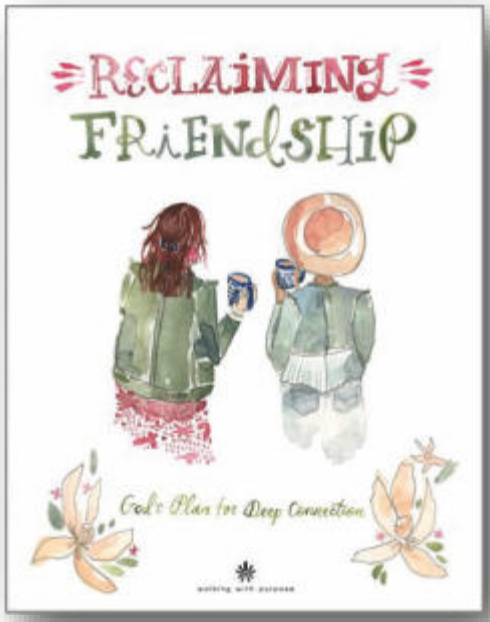
No need to RSVP.

Contact Justin Kortuem at jkortuem@transfigurationmn.org for more information and to be included in the upcoming communications.

Transfiguration Podcast

Tune into our parish podcast *Transfiguration in Oakdale* each week! Whether you are on your daily commute, hitting the gym or the trails, or just sitting at home, we've got you covered with awesome content to keep you engaged and informed. Check out our recent uploads on your favorite podcast app!

Come Back to Community this Fall at Transfiguration!



Discover Biblical solutions to life's challenges in our women's Bible study group! This fall, we'll delve into the newest Bible study from Walking with Purpose, *Reclaiming Friendship: God's Plan for Deep Connection.*

If you desire lasting and abiding friendships, this is the Bible study for you! Let God reshape how you see and experience intentional relationships, deal with your past friendship wounds, and become a woman who is capable of the lifelong bond of true friendship. Reclaiming Friendship is a six-lesson study that will begin at Transfiguration in October. Days and times are still being worked out, so please look for an update in the coming weeks with registration information.

Please contact Lynn Osborne at losborne43@gmail.com or Erin Ethier at 651-501-2209 or eethier@transfigurationmn.org for more information.

TRANSFIGURING SUNDAY EXPERIENCE

We recognize that the Sunday Mass is the true source and summit of our liturgical life in the Church, and we are committed to providing transcendent and transfiguring worship that also builds up our community as one.

Archbishop Hebda Needs Your Help

How can we as a Church better pass-on our beautiful Catholic faith, whether in our homes or in the broader world? The Archdiocesan Synod kicks into high gear this fall and your input is needed to help Archbishop Hebda chart the course for this local Church. Join a small group to discuss and give feedback on priorities within each Synod focus area. Mark your calendar for **Wednesday, September 1 at 7:00 p.m. for the first session** at Transfiguration.

For more information contact
Justin Kortuem at jkortuem@transfigurationmn.org.

Resources Regarding Vaccine Mandates and the Rights of Conscience.

Navigating the topic of vaccines and deciding what you ought to do regarding it can be difficult. Below are a few web links to resources regarding vaccine mandates that may be of helpful for review.

The Catholic Bishops of South Dakota: https://sdcatholicconference.org/covid-19-vaccination-requirements/

The Catholic Bishops of Colorado: https://denvercatholic.org/a-letter-from-the-bishops-of-colorado-on-covid-19-vaccine-mandates/

Catholic Medical Association: https://www.cathmed.org/catholic-medical-association-opposes-vaccine-mandates-without-conscience-and-religious-exemptions/

National Association of Catholic Nurses, USA: https://nacn-usa.org/joint_statement_on_vaccines_and_conscience_protection/

https://nacn-usa.org/can-i-be-required-to-take-the-covid-19-vaccine/

The National Catholic Bioethics Center has many resources on the topics of both the currently available COVID-19 vaccines and the rights of conscience to decline them. https://www.ncbcenter.org/

Prayer Request List

Transfiguration has a list of those needing prayers available on our website; the list is updated upon request. If you have a family member on the list, please verify the name for correct spelling. If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, please contact Martha Praska at our parish office at 651-731-2646.

Mass Intentions

Masses will be offered for each of these intentions.

Sunday, August 22
Ed and Kathy Gorman
Poor Souls in Purgatory
Joan Prill

Monday, August 23
Fr. Brian Keany †

Tuesday, August 24
Art Souza †
Matthew Monson †

Wednesday, August 25
Pat & Beth Phillips Family, Living and Deceased

Thursday, August 26
Sally Palecek †

Friday, August 27
Cecilia Perkins

Saturday, August 28
Poor Souls in Purgatory
Tom & Mary Leverty †

Sunday, August 29
The People of Transfiguration
Jean Oliver & Rosemary Quayle
Angelina Adi †

PRO-FAMILY CULTURE

We are committed to being a truly "pro-family" culture, a culture that recognizes parents' primary role in the education of their children, encourages and promotes a radical openness to life, and strives to support families in their efforts to be holy and to form their beloved children into saints.

Why do Family Formation after Mass?

The family is a domestic Church. Christ and His Church call parents to be "the first and foremost educators of their children" [Gravissimum Educationis, 3]. However, you are not in it alone! We are here to help equip you to be the primary educator to your children. Children and parents of Transfiguration will be given materials to assist them in learning more about the faith at home. In addition to families learning at home, we will have formation twice a month after Sunday Morning Masses. These Sunday formation meetings are for us to grow in faith together and to build deep relationships between families. Having a solid community is incredibly important for us on our journey to Heaven and it is our hope that you will find just that community in our Family Formation here at Transfiguration.

To register and for more information, please scan the QR Code or visit our website: transfigurationmn.org. If you have any questions please contact Melissa Phinney at mphinney@transfigurationmn.org.

Confirmation

When a Catholic receives the Sacrament of Confirmation, they are completing the Christian Initiation begun at their Baptism, by receiving the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgment, Courage, Knowledge, Piety, and the Fear of the Lord. In receiving these Gifts, we are called to use them for the greater glory of God. Confirmation preparation at Transfiguration helps our youth to understand how to live out the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit in their daily lives.

Confirmation preparation at Transfiguration is a two-year program beginning in 7th grade and concluding with the sacrament of Confirmation during the Easter season of 8th grade.

To register and for more information, please scan the QR Code or visit our website: transfigurationmn.org. If you have any questions please contact Melissa Phinney at mphinney@transfigurationmn.org.

Jesus and Football

Recently some of our 4th graders participated in the "For His Glory" football camp. The camp combined football with prayer, Mass, Adoration, Confession, saying the Rosary, and virtue talks alongside former NFL players.

Leighton T. (student) said "the priest talked about playing football as a kid and being asked to give it 100%. He said we should all give 100% to everything we do as Jesus did that when he died for us on the cross". When asked about the football, the boys said "Oh yeah… that was fun too".

Thank you to *Catholic Schools Center of Excellence* and Matt Birk for putting on an incredible camp! May the lessons that were taught penetrate the hearts of these young men for a lifetime.

FROM ERIN ETHIER, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Church Entrances and Future Plans for the Parish Office

We have received many questions regarding the use of the "east" entrance to the Church near the parish office and the Elijah Gallery. It is our goal for parishioners to continue using the main Church entrance at the west end of the gathering space by the St. Michael statue.

Going forward, we would like to reserve the "east" entrance near the offices for people with mobility issues. Reserving this entrance will provide a shorter route to enter the Church and allow people to enter and exit at a slower pace and without a large crowd surrounding them.

It has been Father Erickson's wish since he came to Transfiguration in 2018 to have our main doors unlocked while the office is open. We also have plans to relocate the main parish office to be more accessible and available to parishioners and visitors. The new main office will move to the existing office space adjacent to the gathering space. The entrance will be on the north wall of the gathering space just behind the large reception desk. By moving the majority of staff closer to the gathering space, we will be able to better serve visitors and parishioners that come through our doors. Stay tuned for timing on the project, we are working on finding a contractor that is able to take it on.

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